

REMARKS

The Examiner has restricted the claims of the application into seventeen (17) groups, as detailed at pages 2-4 of the Office Action. In response, Applicants hereby provisionally elect Group XVII, claims 54-56, drawn to a method of diagnosis, for examination, with traverse. Applicants traverse the Restriction Requirement on the grounds that the search and examination of the claims of Groups I-XVII do not present an undue burden to the Examiner.

Furthermore, the Office Action fails to provide a clear reason as to why Group XVII is independent or distinct from Group VII, which includes claims 25-27 and 54-56. Both groups belong to Class 435, subclass 6, and are drawn to methods for diagnosing affective disorders based on the presence of one or more polymorphism(s) in P2X7R. Consequently, Group XVII and Group VII are directed to the same subject matter and are not independent or distinct inventions. Applicants respectfully request that at least Group XVII and Group VII be rejoined for the reasons stated above.

Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications covering the subject matter of the non-elected claims. Prompt Examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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